

FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

A Little Cripple.

In the Boston newspapers a great deal has been written lately about a 6-year-old boy who rides with the Rosedale club. We have such an aged "scorer" in this district, Master Harry Remer of Union Hill, N. J., only 6 years old, too, and capable of riding his 20 miles any day. His father had made for him a miniature racing wheel



weighing 14 pounds. The machine is as cute as anything in the cycle line could be. It is fitted with racing saddle, wood rims and pneumatic tires, quite up to date. The little fellow is in love with the wheel and seldom off it when he is awake. While being a source of pleasure it also has been of great benefit physically, as riding has straightened his limbs, that before were knockkneed. —New York Recorder.

A Curious Doll.

There lives a queer little animal called the hedgehog, not at all prepossessing in appearance, but so wonderfully constructed that he is an object of interest.

He has a long muzzle, short neck and legs, and he bears on his back what may be called a coat of armor. This is a thick covering of strong bristles or spines, and beneath the skin is a powerful muscle which the animal can contract or expand at pleasure.

When contracted, the little creature is rolled up in the shape of a prickly ball. This is the method he uses to protect himself on the approach of an enemy, and he will even run toward a hedge, from which he drops a distance of many feet. Instantly he rolls himself in a ball, from which the spikes stand out thickly on all sides. These are so elastic that he is not harmed by the fall, and after a moment or two he resumes his former shape and runs off as briskly as possible.

The summer is his time for activity, and he then subsists on reptiles of various kinds; also birds and beetles.

At the approach of winter he seeks a snug home for himself beneath the root of a tree, where he builds a soft nest of leaves and moss. In this he goes to sleep, and a long nap he takes, for through all the cold, frosty, winter weather he is in a state of torpidity, requiring no food, for beneath his skin a layer of fat is formed during the summer, and this serves for warmth and nourishment, as it is gradually absorbed through the long winter.

His prickly coat he uses for defense, as he has the power of bristling the quills out in every direction and holding them in this position, thus rendering himself so fierce looking a foe that he is not a pleasant subject to attack.

There are also hedgehogs of the sea, or sea urchins, as they are often called. These, too, are prickly coated balls, but they never change their shape, as they are always round.

When the shell, washed by the sea and freed from its bristles, is cast upon the beach, it is a beautiful thing to examine, for it is the faintest of white balls, slightly flattened at each end, and has the appearance of being most exquisitely carved.

Both truly are curious balls, the hedgehog of the land and that of the sea, and their homes and habits so different, yet each one has his own work of usefulness which it faithfully performs. —Detroit Free Press.

A Bowl of Honey.

Dorothy Dole, with a hand painted bowl, went out to get some honey. "Please, Mr. Bee, a quart," said she, "and here is yellow money." She held the bowl up with a buttercup. How very, very funny!



Dorothy, dear, oh, hark and hear what the buzzing bee is singing. "The honey sweet lies at your feet in clover tops awinging." So fill your bowl, my Dorothy Dole, with all that summer's bringing. —Annie Isabel Willis in St. Nicholas.

The Butterfly.

If you can catch a butterfly this summer and can look at it through a magnifying glass, you will see that its wings are covered with tiny plumes or feathers. Indeed a butterfly is a very wonderful pet to have, and if you can find a caterpillar and put it in a box with plenty of leaves of the plant on which you found it feeding you can have the pleasure of seeing it spin its cocoon and watch it when it first comes out—a poor, damp, weak little pet, to be sure, but one which will in a few hours be a most beautiful one.—Child Garden.

Her Success Remarkable.

Miss Comstock, who is president of the Comstock Banking company in Green City and cashier of the Comstock Castle bank in Green Castle, Mo., is probably one of the youngest bank officers in the country. She entered the bank at Green City in March, 1889 as assistant cashier and bookkeeper, which position she filled in all its various duties. In September, 1892, the owners of that bank organized one in Green Castle, when they made Miss Comstock president of the old bank and cashier of the new one. As the president and directors of the latter bank live at some distance from it, Miss Comstock has the real work of the bank to do, and despite the heavy responsibility she is interested and successful in her work. We are accustomed now to hear of good work being done by young men, but as Miss Comstock is just 21 years old her success has been remarkable. —Women's Progress.

The Girl of the Period.

It is the aim of the society girl nowadays to be as straight as an ash and as supple as a willow. Boxing is one of the new ways of accomplishing this desired result. Punching an inflated rubber bag is another pet exercise, and the mode of procedure is something like this: The bag must be hung in such a manner as to rebound almost instantly after being struck. It should be set in motion and then hit as it is receding, not as it is approaching. The face should be kept toward the bag, and the blows should be from the shoulder. The right kind of a bag is of the same shape and three or four times the size of a Rugby football. It is inflated with air and secured to the ground and ceiling with rubber bands. —Chicago Times.

They Fed Her Well.

Frances E. Willard attributes her gain in health and weight to the fact that they made her eat five meals a day in England, and hearty meals at that. There is a growing belief that the "food cure" properly administered is more efficacious than medicine in rebuilding shattered constitutions and toning up weak nerves. It was advocated in this country a few years ago by a celebrated Philadelphia specialist in nervous diseases. Miss Willard weighs 142 pounds now, though she was "almost a skeleton" two years ago. She is back on her bicycle, but not in bloomers costume. "I am too sedate for that," she says.

No Sex Limit.

Suffrage should be limited, but not by sex. One who will sell his vote should be disfranchised, because he values as nothing the most priceless possession of a free man. Ignorance should be a bar between a man or woman and the right to vote. There are many things which might restrict beneficially the right of voting, but sex is not one of them until sex unfits a person for holding and gaining property, for being subject to the laws and for sustaining a part of the municipal and state expenses. It never has done that. —Massachusetts Ploughman.

California's Daughters.

The woman's congress in California, in connection with the Midwinter fair, was a revelation to Californians themselves of the power and talent of the women of that great state. There was no conception of the amount of resident ability, oratorical, literary, scientific and other, until the papers and addresses upon a widely diversified class of topics were submitted to the critical judgment of crowds of eastern as well as western auditors competent to form an opinion. An immense stimulus will undoubtedly be given to the activity of women in every direction.

Carrie M. Watson.

Miss Carrie M. Watson is librarian of the state university at Lawrence, Kan. She read a paper at the late annual meeting of the Kansas Academy of Language and Literature, in which she named and discussed the books issued by Kansas and "formerly of Kansas" authors during the last year. Her brief, pointed and gracefully appreciative analysis made a literary treat out of a seemingly dry subject, "The Bibliography of Kansas."

Novelty in Curtains.

Lace insertion set in the middle of the silk curtain is one of the new things in vestibule curtains and is really very charming. The habit of tying the silk so as to form a double fan and that of pleating it in the center are both bad and give a fantastic look to the door, yet one solid curtain often leaves the hallway dark. This four or five inch strip of handsome, heavy lace admits additional light and adds to the beauty as well.

They Shoot as Well as Ride.

The young women members of a fashionable bicycle club of Cincinnati have added archery to the pleasures of a run on the wheel. They ride to a target meet, spend a couple of hours at the graceful sport and whirl home again on the steel circles. Already the skill with the arrow has stood at least one of them in good stead, who, bothered by a vicious dog as she rode along, promptly dismounted, fitted an arrow and sent it whizzing against the belligerent dog.

Good Sense in This.

Co-operation in a new form is that carried out by a club of young women who work in a shoe factory in one of the New England manufacturing centers. The club members pool their earnings over and above what is needed to support them with strict economy and invest in real estate. Already their holdings are quite large and proving profitable.

A Woman Architect.

Miss Anna L. Hawkins was graduated from the Maryland Institute recently. She is the first woman to receive a diploma in the architectural division and will make a profession of architecture, for which she has shown decided talent.



NEW SUMMER BLOUSES.

The blouse at the top is of hairline taffetas, and is shirred closely around the throat. There is a collar and also a belt of blue ribbon loops. The draped balloon sleeves reach hot to the elbow. The lower figure represents a waist with gathered polka and huge draped sleeves of velvet striped silk and a large incroyable bow in front. Two bands of white insertion cross the bust and back. That on the left shows a waist with polka and a cord around the waist line. The short figure is of surah with Bulgarian embroidery. The sleeves are coat shape with large draped caps.

Some Women Are Never Old.

Mrs. Margaret Plotter recently celebrated her ninety-third birthday at Indiana, Pa., and although her 170 descendants who were present presented her with many gifts the one she prizes most highly is a safety bicycle, and so capable a wheelwoman is she that she has issued the following challenge: "I, Margaret Plotter, being in sound health, memory and understanding, hereby challenge any woman of my age to ride a race for a prize Bible, the one losing to present the book to the winner."

The Bicycle World reports that there are two other ladies in that immediate vicinity who could accept the challenge by fulfilling the two qualifications of age and riding ability.

Rev. Miss Chapin. Rev. Augusta J. Chapin, D. D., has finally accepted a unanimous call to the Universalist church at Omaha. The situation has improved greatly during her pastorate. Miss Chapin lately sailed for England. She goes mainly for the sea voyage and will spend the few weeks of her stay abroad in the English lake district and the Scottish highlands, where undoubtedly she will find the rest and refreshment she needs. She expects to return on the Lucania on Sept. 1 and to present a paper on "Woman and the Church" at the Universalist semi-annual at Eaton, Pa., on Sept. 12.

Skirt Prophecies. "Skirts are becoming narrower," says an indisputable authority. "They are made to come close to the figure in front and drawn back by elastic in such a manner as to flare in two or three godet plaits at the back, the greater the flare in the back the more fashionable the skirt, and haremlike and yards of feather are brought into service to accomplish the result." The same designer predicts that they will grow smaller at the edge and says that but few of the finest models have the wide swing we so revel in early in the season.

Expert With the Rifle. The Duchess of Connaught lately drove over to Aldershot, where the army rifle meeting was held. The duchess took special interest in the ladies' competition, distance 50 yards, with small rifles and watched the firing for some time. Some 50 ladies took part in the contest, with weapons of various caliber, and handled the rifles with wonderful dexterity. Three ladies made within one of the highest possible, 34 out of the possible 35—Mrs. Plicher, Mrs. Dumbreck and Mrs. Grier.

The Countess of Aberdeen has purchased the stock, business and premises of the late Mr. Benjamin Lindsay, who for many years promoted the manufacture and sale of Irish laces in Dublin. She has placed the management in the hands of the Irish Industries association.

Nothing is more pleasant to use as a cure for rough and sunburned skin than plain slices of cucumber. The way to use it is to cut off a slice and rub the skin well with it, drying afterward with a soft towel.

Petitions are being circulated in South Australia asking that women be given the suffrage for both houses of parliament.

Rev. Phoebe C. Hanford is credited with having performed 40 wedding ceremonies during her ministry.

Female franchise leagues are being formed all over Australia.

Tours in the Rocky Mountains. The "Scenic Line of the World," the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, offers to tourists in Colorado, Utah and New Mexico the choicest resorts, and to the transcontinental traveler the grandest scenery. Double daily train service with through Pullman sleepers and tourists' cars between Denver and San Francisco and Los Angeles. For descriptive pamphlets address S. K. HOOPER, G. P. A., Denver, Col.

STAGE GLINTS.

It is said that George W. Wilson will not head the "Shore Acres" company No. 2 next season, all negotiations to that end being off.

"A Cork Man" is the title of the new musical comedy in which the Irish comedian, Herbert Cawthorn, will star the coming season.

The Bostonians have engaged Signor Daubigny for next season. The tenor is now in London, and the engagement was made by cable.

Conroy and Fox will open their season at the Bijou theater of Pittsburg, where they will present their new comedy, "Hot Tamales."

The Nicoll sisters have signed with Richards and Canfield for next season, and they will have prominent parts in "The Circus Clown."

Lucy Daly, with her band of pickaninies, will sail for England under the management of Canary and Lederer for a tour in England and France.

Tillie Sabern, a young woman of Richmond, Ind., made a balloon ascension at Anderson recently. Her parachute did not work, and she fell and was killed.

Manager David Henderson has secured a verdict for \$3,000 damages against Charles Coghlan for the latter's failure to appear at the Duquesne theater, Pittsburg, during the first week in March last.

Helen Dauvray's starring tour will begin on Sept. 3 at A. M. Palmer's theater for a season of two weeks, which may be extended. William Gill has nearly completed a farical comedy for her. It will be called "That Sister of His."

TURE TOPICS.

The pace "is the thing"—just now. The people of Persia ate 4,615 tons of horse meat last year.

The nerves of the horse all end near the tail. Those of the donkey are deeply imbedded.

It is calculated that the drought in the department of Uruguay, Entre Rios, caused the death of 815 mares.

According to the belief of many old horsemen and trainers, a horse will partake of many of the characteristics of his rider.

"Hobby horse riders win but few races" is a saw that horsemen with theories in breeding might profitably remember.

G. W. Fulton of Corpus Christi, Tex., recently sold 100 horses at \$11 each, giving the purchaser 1,000 head to select from.

Every Roman legion had about 500 horses for camp equipage, baggage and provisions, and yet the Romans never were an equestrian nation.

Governor Flower of New York has bought a pair of 16 hand sorrel horses to use as leaders for a four-in-hand which he will drive at Saratoga.

A snuffling colt at Adrian, Mich., becoming frightened during a heavy thunderstorm, broke its back through the sudden contraction of the muscles.

It is reported that experiments are now being made with compressed hay for paving blocks. The hay, after being pressed, is soaked in a drying oil, which, it is claimed, renders it almost indestructible. —Horseman.

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